

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00  
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07  
L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /054 R

DRAFTED BY ARA:JFKEANE:MMS

APPROVED BY ARA:JFKEANE

-----020247Z 022194 /22

O 020130Z APR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE  
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: TODMAN SWEARING-IN

TERENCE A. TODMAN WAS SWORN IN APRIL 1. HIS PREPARED  
REMARKS AT THE CEREMONY FOLLOW, REMARKS WERE READ AS  
PREPARED.

MR. SECRETARY, FRIENDS: I AM GREATLY HONORED BY THE CON-  
FIDENCE WHICH THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY HAVE PLACED  
IN ME BY GIVING ME THIS ASSIGNMENT. AND I AM GRATEFUL TO  
YOU, FOR PRESIDING OVER THIS CEREMONY.

THE PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF THIS APPOINTMENT, OF COURSE, IS TO  
WORK TO STRENGTHEN OUR RELATIONS WITH LATIN AMERICA AND  
THE CARIBBEAN, AREAS WITH WHICH WE HAVE HAD LONG AND  
FRIENDLY TIES AND WHICH ARE INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT TO US  
AND TO THE WORLD. TO THAT PURPOSE I WILL DEDICATE ALL MY  
EFFORTS. I FEEL VERY FORTUNATE TO HAVE WORKING WITH ME  
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AN EXPERIENCED AND DEDICATED GROUP OF COLLEAGUES WHO WILL  
HELP TO ENSURE THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE TASKS BEFORE US.

BUT YOU WILL EXCUSE ME FOR CONSIDERING THIS AS MORE THAN  
JUST ANOTHER IMPORTANT JOB TO BE DONE. FOR ME THERE IS  
SATISFACTION IN NOTING THAT AFTER 200 YEARS THE UNITED

STATES HAS REACHED THE STAGE WHERE IT CAN TAKE YET ANOTHER SMALL STEP TOWARDS REALIZING ITS OWN IDEALS AND DRAWING MORE FULLY ON ITS STRENGTH BY REACHING INTO SEGMENTS OF THE POPULATION THAT HAVE REMAINED RELATIVELY UNTAPPED. I AM PLEASED TO BE AN INSTRUMENT THROUGH WHICH OUR COUNTRY HAS REACHED ANOTHER MILESTONE IN ITS PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVEMENT OF THE GOALS FOR WHICH IT WAS FOUNDED.

REFLECTING ON TODAY'S CEREMONY SHOULD FILL US MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE WITH PROMISE AND HOPE.

FOR MY COLLEAGUES IN THE CAREER FOREIGN SERVICE, IT GIVES US ONE MORE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT PROFESSIONALISM, COURAGE, AND IMAGINATION WILL LEAD TO OPPORTUNITIES TO ASSUME ADDED RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE SERVICE OF OUR COUNTRY

TO BLACKS AND OTHER MINORITIES, BOTH IN AND OUT OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE, IT SHOULD HOLD OUT THE PROMISE THAT SUCH MINORITY STATUS MAY NOT IN THE FUTURE NECESSARILY BE A BAR TO REACHING THE HIGHER LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT. ADMITTEDLY, THIS IS JUST A BEGINNING. BUT NOW THAT A START HAS BEEN MADE, WE CAN ALL BE MORE HOPEFUL FOR THE FUTURE.

THERE SHOULD ALSO BE SOME MESSAGE OF HOPE FOR OUR FRIENDS FROM ABROAD BECAUSE OUR FOREIGN POLICY WILL ALWAYS REFLECT OUR DOMESTIC CLIMATE. THUS TO THE EXTENT THAT WE ADVANCE IN THE AREAS OF JUSTICE, RESPECT FOR HUMAN DIGNITY, EQUALITY AND A REASONABLE SOLUTION OF PRESSING PROBLEMS HERE IN THE UNITED STATES, WE ARE MORE LIKELY TO ADOPT A

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SIMILAR ATTITUDE IN OUR RELATIONS ABROAD. AS WE ARE ABLE TO BREAK WITH TRADITION AND MAKE ROOM FOR THOSE MOVING ONTO THE DOMESTIC SCENE, THERE IS REASON TO HOPE THAT IN OUR FOREIGN POLICY WE WILL RECOGNIZE THAT TRADITIONAL SYSTEMS, ARRANGEMENTS AND INSTITUTIONS SHOULD BE CHANGED TO ACCOMMODATE BETTER THE EMERGING AND LESSER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. THESE CAN AND SHOULD RECEIVE MORE CONSIDERATION AND PLAY A MORE IMPORTANT ROLE IN DETERMINING WORLD AFFAIRS, PARTICULARLY WITH RESPECT TO MATTERS AFFECTING THEIR ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT.

I AM PLEASED TO HAVE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS PRESENT AT THIS CEREMONY BECAUSE YOU ARE OUR FULL PARTNERS IN FOREIGN POLICY AS IN EVERY OTHER AREA. I WILL CONSULT WITH YOU CLOSELY AND CONTINUOUSLY TO GET THE BENEFIT OF YOUR COUNSEL AND SUPPORT AND TO SHARE FULLY OUR THOUGHTS ON APPROACHES AND POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS WE FACE.

I AM ALSO HAPPY TO SEE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEADING

INTERNATIONAL, BUSINESS, LABOR, ACADEMIC AND OTHER ORGAN-

IZATIONS WHICH ARE ACTIVELY CONCERNED WITH LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN AFFAIRS. AS WE DEVELOP OUR RELATIONS WITH THIS AREA, WE INTEND TO KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH YOU AND TO DRAW ON YOUR EXPERTISE. WE WILL TRY TO ENSURE THAT OUR APPROACH AT LEAST REFLECTS CONSIDERATION OF THE INFORMED AND SERIOUS VIEWS OF ALL RELEVANT ELEMENTS OF OUR POPULATION.

I AM PARTICULARLY GRATEFUL TO THE DISTINGUISHED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COUNTRIES OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN FOR JOINING ME ON THIS OCCASION WHEN I ENTER OFFICIALLY INTO PROFESSIONAL RELATIONS WITH YOU. YOU CAN COUNT ON ME TO BE EVER ATTENTIVE TO WHATEVER MATTERS MIGHT CONCERN YOU. I HOPE THAT YOU WILL NOT HESITATE TO CALL ON ME. YOU MAY BE SURE THAT I WILL ALWAYS DEAL WITH YOU

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IN A MOST RESPECTFUL, FRANK, OPEN, AND FRIENDLY MANNER, SEEKING ALWAYS TO FIND MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY SOLUTIONS TO THE QUESTIONS AT HAND. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO ASK THE SAME OF YOU. IN THIS WAY WE CAN BE SURE THAT OUR RELATIONS WILL BE MARKED BY GOOD WILL AND UNDERSTANDING, EVEN ON THOSE OCCASIONS WHEN WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO RESOLVE IMMEDIATELY SUCH DIFFERENCES AS MIGHT EXIST.

LET ME ASSURE YOU THAT THE UNITED STATES VALUES THE FRIENDSHIP OF ALL OF YOUR COUNTRIES AND WISHES TO MAINTAIN THE BEST POSSIBLE RELATIONS WITH YOU BASED ON EQUALITY AND MUTUAL RESPECT. WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF INTERFERING IN ANY WAY IN YOUR INTERNAL AFFAIRS OR OF TRYING TO DETERMINE WHAT SOCIAL, ECONOMIC OR POLITICAL PATH ANY COUNTRY MIGHT DECIDE TO TAKE. BUT YOU WILL UNDERSTAND THAT THE NATURE OF OUR RELATIONS WILL DOUBTLESS REFLECT THE DEGREE TO WHICH PRACTICES IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES ARE COMPATIBLE WITH OUR OWN.

IN THIS CONNECTION, IT MAY BE WORTH SAYING A WORD ABOUT OUR POLICY ON HUMAN RIGHTS. I WISH TO EMPHASIZE THAT OUR COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS IS PROFOUND AND LASTING. WE ARE ENCOURAGED THAT IN UPHOLDING HUMAN DIGNITY WE ARE ACTING FOR VALUES SHARED BY ALL OF YOU. WE RECOGNIZE THAT CIRCUMSTANCES IN SOME COUNTRIES FACED WITH TERRORISM AND VIOLENCE CALL FOR SPECIAL ACTIONS TO MAINTAIN PEACE AND TO PROTECT THE LIVES AND PROPERTY OF CITIZENS. BUT THERE MUST BE WAYS TO DEAL WITH THOSE SITUATIONS WITHOUT ADOPTING MEASURES WHICH VIOLATE THE VERY PRINCIPLES THEY ARE INTENDED TO PROTECT. IN ANY CASE, IT IS CLEAR THAT GROSS AND REPEATED VIOLATION OF BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS IS NOT

ONLY A NATIONAL PROBLEM. IT IS A VALID SOURCE OF  
INTERNATIONAL CONCERN. WE HOPE TO BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN A  
DIALOGUE WITH YOU ON HOW WE CAN PROMOTE OUR SHARED VALUES

IN THIS AREA WHILE MAINTAINING OUR RELATIONS AT THE BEST  
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POSSIBLE LEVEL.

WE RECOGNIZE THAT YOUR COUNTRIES ARE AT VARYING STAGES OF  
SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT CALLING FOR  
APPLICATION OF DIFFERENT MEASURES. SOME ARE ALREADY IN  
A POSITION TO HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE WORLD  
SCENE. OTHERS WILL SHORTLY BE SO. WE WELCOME THIS. STILL  
OTHERS WILL REQUIRE THE CONTINUING ENCOURAGEMENT AND  
ASSISTANCE OF ALL OF US WHO ARE IN A POSITION TO HELP.  
WE RECOGNIZE THIS DIVERSITY AND ARE PREPARED TO ENGAGE  
WITH IT ON ITS OWN TERMS. OUR RELATIONS WITH EACH COUNTRY  
WILL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT ITS OWN CHARACTER TO ENSURE THAT  
OUR POLICIES AND ACTIONS ARE APPROPRIATELY RESPONSIVE.  
WE WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO CONSULT WITH YOU FULLY TO  
AVOID SURPRISES ON ANY PROBLEMS THAT MAY AFFECT YOU DIRECT-  
LY OR INDIRECTLY. AND WE WILL REFRAIN FROM MAKING PROMISES  
THAT WE ARE NOT ABLE TO KEEP. WE FEEL SURE THAT THIS  
HONESTY AND FORTHRIGHTNESS WILL IN THE END MAKE FOR BETTER  
RELATIONS BUILT ON A MORE SOLID BASIS.

FINALLY, I WISH TO SAY A SPECIAL WORD OF THANKS TO ALL OF  
YOU WHOSE SUPPORT, FRIENDSHIP AND ENCOURAGEMENT HAVE BEEN  
SO VALUABLE TO ME THROUGH THE YEARS. AS I MOVE INTO THIS  
MOST DIFFICULT ASSIGNMENT, I LOOK FORWARD EVEN MORE TO  
YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND GOD'S HELP FOR THE BUILDING OF A  
BETTER LIFE WITH PEACE AND JUSTICE FOR ALL OUR PEOPLES.

THANK YOU.

CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, (TODMAN, TERENCE A)  
**To:** ALL POSTS USCINCSO  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/50868bab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009